

REF ID: A66666

COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC

Military Information from Merseburg and Koethen

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 September 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

1. On the morning of 13 August 1951, a Soviet troop train of 40 boxcars and flatcars passed through the Merseburg (M 52/D 91) railroad station, coming from the direction of Weissenfels and proceeding toward Halle. The boxcars were occupied by troops and the flatcars carried jeeps mounting machine guns, about 6 tanks, an undetermined number of trucks and field kitchen.
2. Koethen (M 52/D 95) airfield, about 30 T-34 tanks were sheltered in the hangars of the airfield at the end of July. The tanks had been there for a long time, and the troops were restricted to quarters. there had been more tanks at the airfield in April 1951, but they had been moved to Dessau-Rosslau, with supply vehicles and German work personnel.
- the tank unit which was still located in Koethen in early August would also be transferred to Dessau-Rosslau soon. **
3. Three AA guns, apparently of 75-mm, were emplaced about 700 meters northeast of point 94.4, near Koethen airfield.
4. Heavy AA guns were emplaced on the southern edge of Koethen airfield on 11 August. Three trucks were observed with the guns. ***

* Comment. The vehicle belong to components of the 57th Gds Itz Rifle Div from Naumburg. Since heavy weapons units of the division were still observed in the Dessau-Alten area in addition to the divisional engineer components on 21 August, it is possible that the unit mentioned in the present report was one of those being

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

Document No.	5
No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/> 25X1
<input type="checkbox"/> Declassified	
Class. Changed To:	TS S 0
Auth:	HR 70-2
Date:	11 Sept 78
By	

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~

- 2 -

rotated to the engineer training site. [redacted]
[redacted]. On the other hand, it is possible that the
train mentioned in the present report may have been one
of the four trains which. [redacted]

[redacted] went to the Halle-Wallwitz area
on 10 August, allegedly carrying tank units. [redacted]

** [redacted] Comment. The information agrees with reports of
April and May 1951 [redacted]. However, the
present and the report of May indicate that not the
entire tank unit of the 7th Gds Tank Div has left Koethen
airfield, because the two reports indicate that 30 tanks
were still there in May and July 1951. [redacted]

[redacted] It cannot be determined whether
the tank components which left in April went to Dessau-
Rosslau or to Letzling Heath. [redacted]

*** [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the trucks
observed belong to the unidentified AAA unit which is
stationed in Zerbst.

CONFIDENTIAL~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~